Appl. No. 10/529,381 Amdt. dated January 14, 2008 Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group 1 (claims 1, 6, 31 (in part), and 32 (in part) in the present application. Applicants further elect with traverse to prosecute claims directed to SEQ ID NO: 4. In the Office Action, the Examiner states that restriction between these sequences is proper because they lack the same or corresponding special technical features, as required by PCT Rule 13.2. In particular, the Examiner states that the sequences disclosed and claimed in the present application do not share a common structure or function that distinguished them from the prior art. In fact, as explained below, SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 6 do share such a common technical feature.

As shown in Figure 2(C) of the present application, SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 6 are splice variants of MICAL2-PV. SEQ ID NO: 4 is the "long form" and SEQ ID NO: 6 is the "short form." These two proteins have unique C-terminal structures as compared with MICAL2 that can be seen in an alignment of the SEQ ID NOs: 4, 6, and MICAL2, shown in the attached appendix. As can seen the N-terminal sequence from the 1st to the 739th residue is common to the three proteins. However, the same C-terminal sequence is present in SEQ ID NO: 4 (residues 889-976) and SEQ ID NO: 6 (residues 865-955), but is *not* present in MICAL2. Thus, SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 6 share a special technical feature that distinguishes them over the prior art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that unity between SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 6 should be acknowledged in the present application. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction between these two sequences.

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 34,774

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Attachments KLB:klb 61256477 v1

Appendix

 Sequence 1: SEQ ID NO: 4
 976 aa

 Sequence 2: SEQ ID NO: 6
 955 aa

 Sequence 3: known MICAL2
 1124 aa

SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	MGENEDEKQAQAGQVFENFVQASTCKGTLQAFNILTRHLDLDPLDHRNFYSKLKSKVTTW MGENEDEKQAQAGQVFENFVQASTCKGTLQAFNILTRHLDLDPLDHRNFYSKLKSKVTTW MGENEDEKQAQAGQVFENFVQASTCKGTLQAFNILTRHLDLDPLDHRNFYSKLKSKVTTW ***********************************	60 60 60
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	KAKALWYKLDKRGSHKEYKRGKSCTNTKCLIVGGGPCGLRTAIELAYLGAKVVVVEKRDS KAKALWYKLDKRGSHKEYKRGKSCTNTKCLIVGGGPCGLRTAIELAYLGAKVVVVEKRDS KAKALWYKLDKRGSHKEYKRGKSCTNTKCLIVGGGPCGLRTAIELAYLGAKVVVVEKRDS	120 120 120
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	FSRNNVLHLWPFT!HDLRGLGAKKFYGKFCAGS!DH!S!RQLQL!LFKVALMLGVE!HVN FSRNNVLHLWPFT!HDLRGLGAKKFYGKFCAGS!DH!S!RQLQL!LFKVALMLGVE!HVN FSRNNVLHLWPFT!HDLRGLGAKKFYGKFCAGS!DH!S!RQLQL!LFKVALMLGVE!HVN ************************************	180 180 180
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	VEFVKVLEPPEDQENQKIGWRAEFLPTDHSLSEFEFDVIIGADGRRNTLEGFRRKEFRGK VEFVKVLEPPEDQENQKIGWRAEFLPTDHSLSEFEFDVIIGADGRRNTLEGFRRKEFRGK VEFVKVLEPPEDQENQKIGWRAEFLPTDHSLSEFEFDVIIGADGRRNTLEGFRRKEFRGK ************************************	240 240 240
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	LAIAITANFINRNSTAEAKVEEISGVAFIFNQKFFQDLKEETGIDLENIVYYKDCTHYFV LAIAITANFINRNSTAEAKVEEISGVAFIFNQKFFQDLKEETGIDLENIVYYKDCTHYFV LAIAITANFINRNSTAEAKVEEISGVAFIFNQKFFQDLKEETGIDLENIVYYKDCTHYFV	300 300 300
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	MTAKKQSLLDKGVIINDYIDTEMLLCAENVNQDNLLSYAREAADFATNYQLPSLDFAMNH MTAKKQSLLDKGVIINDYIDTEMLLCAENVNQDNLLSYAREAADFATNYQLPSLDFAMNH MTAKKQSLLDKGVIINDYIDTEMLLCAENVNQDNLLSYAREAADFATNYQLPSLDFAMNH ************************************	360 360 360
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	YGQPDVAMFDFTCMYASENAALVRERQAHQLLVALVGDSLLEPFWPMGTGCARGFLAAFD YGQPDVAMFDFTCMYASENAALVRERQAHQLLVALVGDSLLEPFWPMGTGCARGFLAAFD YGQPDVAMFDFTCMYASENAALVRERQAHQLLVALVGDSLLEPFWPMGTGCARGFLAAFD	420 420 420
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	TAWMVKSWNQGTPPLELLAERESLYRLLPQTTPENINKNFEQYTLDPGTRYPNLNSHCVR TAWMVKSWNQGTPPLELLAERESLYRLLPQTTPENINKNFEQYTLDPGTRYPNLNSHCVR TAWMVKSWNQGTPPLELLAERESLYRLLPQTTPENINKNFEQYTLDPGTRYPNLNSHCVR	480 480 480
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	PHQVKHLYITKELEHYPLERLGSVRRSVNLSRKESDIRPSKLLTWCQQQTEGYQHVNVTD PHQVKHLYITKELEHYPLERLGSVRRSVNLSRKESDIRPSKLLTWCQQQTEGYQHVNVTD PHQVKHLYITKELEHYPLERLGSVRRSVNLSRKESDIRPSKLLTWCQQQTEGYQHVNVTD ************************************	540

SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	LTTSWRSGLALCATTHRERPELINEDSLNEDDAVENNQLAFDVAEREFGIPPVTTGKEMA LTTSWRSGLALCATTHRERPELINEDSLNEDDAVENNQLAFDVAEREFGIPPVTTGKEMA	600 600 600
SEQ ID NO: 4	**************************************	660
SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	SAGEPDKLSMVMYLSKFYELFRGTPLRPVDSWRKNYGENADLSLAKSSISNNYLNLTFPR SAGEPDKLSMVMYLSKFYELFRGTPLRPVDSWRKNYGENADLSLAKSSISNNYLNLTFPR	660 660
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6	KRTPRVDGQTGENDMNKRRRKGFTNLDEPSNFSSRSLGSNQECGSSKEGGNQNKVKSMAN KRTPRVDGQTGENDMNKRRRKGFTNLDEPSNFSSRSLGSNQECGSSKEGGNQNKVKSMAN KRTPRVDGQTGENDMNKRRRKGFTNLDEPSNFSSRSLGSNQECGSSKEGGNQNKVKSMAN	720 720 720
known MICAL2	*************************************	739
SEQ ID NO: 4	QLLAKFEESTRNPSLMKQE	73 9 739
SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	QLLAKFEESTRNPSLMKQE	780
SEQ ID NO: 4		739 739
SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	PSVVVTGHVLRELKQVSAGSECLSRPWRARAKSDLQLGGTENFATLPSTRPRAQALSGVL	840
SEQ ID NO: 4		739
SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	WRLQQVEEK LQKRAQNLANREFHTKN KEKAAHLASMFGHGDFPQNKLLSKGLSHTHPP	739 900
SEQ 1D NO: 4	KKSPSGFHFHPSHLRTVHPQE	760 739
SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	SPPSRLPSPDPAASSSPSTVDSASPARKEKKSPSGFHFHPSHLRTVHPQLTVGKVSSG1G	960
SEQ 1D NO: 4	SMRKSFPLNLGGSDTCYFCKKRVYVMERLSAEGH	794 773
SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2		1020
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	FFHRECFRCS I CATTLRLAAYTFDCDEGKFYCKPHF I HCKTNSKQRKRRAELKQQREEEA FFHRECFRCS I CATTLRLAAYTFDCDEGKFYCKPHF I HCKTNSKQRKRRAELKQQREEEA FFHRECFRCS I CATTLRLAAYTFDCDEGKFYCKPHF I HCKTNSKQRKRRAELKQQREEEA	854 833 1080
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## 886 (NO:4) /865 (NO:6)

SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	TWOEGEAPRRDTPTESSCAVAAIGTLEGSPPGISTSFFRKVLGWPLRLPRDLCNWMQGLL TWOEGEAPRRDTPTESSCAVAAIGTLEGSPPGISTSFFRKVLGWPLRLPRDLCNWMQGLL TWOEGEAPRRDTPTESSCAVAAIGTLEGSPP	914 893 1111
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6 known MICAL2	QAAGLHIRDNAYNYCYMYELLSLGLPLLWAFSEVLAAMYRESEGSLESICNWVLRCFPVK QAAGLHIRDNAYNYCYMYELLSLGLPLLWAFSEVLAAMYRESEGSLESICNWVLRCFPVK ——————————————————VHFSLPVLHPLLG :::**:*::	974 953 1124
SEQ ID NO: 4 SEQ ID NO: 6	LR LR	976 955